

We live in a time where there has been a resurgence in interest in family history and genealogical research. With the advancement of internet research tools, millions of Americans have gone online to learn more about their pasts. Indeed, this type of research is among the more prominent uses of Internet resources, as evidenced by the growth of websites and services like Ancestry.com and Family Search. Also, millions of Americans have tuned into hit television shows describing the experience and revelation that comes with the discovery of one's family history.

I want to thank Senator LEVIN for working with me on this legislation, as well as our cosponsors Senators BENNETT, SCHUMER, KERRY, SHAHEEN, and GILLIBRAND.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 488—CONGRATULATING THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY IFC/PANHELLENIC DANCE MARATHON (THON) ON ITS CONTINUED SUCCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE FOUR DIAMONDS FUND AT PENN STATE HERSHEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Mr. SPECTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 488

Whereas the Pennsylvania State IFC/Pan-hellenic Dance Marathon, known as THON, is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world, with 700 dancers, more than 300 supporting organizations, and more than 15,000 volunteers involved in the annual event;

Whereas student volunteers at the Pennsylvania State University annually collect money and dance for 46 hours straight at the Bryce Jordan Center for THON, bringing energy and excitement to campus for a mission to conquer cancer, and bringing awareness to countless thousands more;

Whereas all THON activities support the mission of the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital, which provides financial and emotional support to pediatric cancer patients and their families and funds cancer research;

Whereas each year, THON is the single largest donor to the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital, having raised nearly \$68,900,000 since 1977, when the 2 organizations first became affiliated;

Whereas in 2010, THON set a new fundraising record of over \$7,830,000, besting the previous record of \$7,500,000 was set in 2009;

Whereas THON support has helped more than 2,000 families through the Four Diamonds Fund, is currently helping to build a new Pediatric Cancer Pavilion at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital, and has helped support pediatric cancer research that has caused some pediatric cancer survival rates to increase to nearly 90 percent; and

Whereas THON has inspired similar events and organizations across the Nation, including at high schools and colleges, and continues to encourage students across the Nation to volunteer and stay involved in great charitable causes in their community: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Pennsylvania State University IFC/Pan-hellenic Dance Marathon (THON) on its continued success in support of the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital; and

(2) commends the Pennsylvania State University students, volunteers, and supporting organizations for their hard work putting together another record-breaking THON.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I seek recognition today to commend the Pennsylvania State University and the many students across the Commonwealth who each year play a very important role in the fight against cancer.

The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Pan-hellenic Dance Marathon, referred to as "THON," is a yearlong effort to raise funds and awareness for the fight against pediatric cancer. The effort culminates in a 2-day, no sitting, no sleeping dance marathon. Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$60 million for the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Children's Hospital. The Four Diamonds Fund was established by Charles and Irma Millard, after the death of their son, Christopher, who was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 11. In addition to helping with the cost of treatment that insurance does not cover, as well as expenses that may disrupt the welfare of the child, the Four Diamonds Fund supports the medical teams that care for the children and funds pediatric cancer research through start-up grants and the Four Diamonds Pediatric Cancer Research Institute.

Since its inception, THON has assisted over 2,000 families and no family has been turned away from the Four Diamonds Fund. The hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm of thousands of student volunteers and hundreds of dancers combine with the support of the wider Penn State community and students across the commonwealth of Pennsylvania to make a potent weapon in the fight against pediatric cancer. Thanks to their efforts, the fight is one we are ever closer to winning.

To win the fight against pediatric cancer, and all cancers, once and for all, we need to continue to support vital medical research. When I came to the U.S. Senate in 1981, funding for the National Institutes of Health totaled \$3.6 billion. Since becoming LHHS chairman in 1996, I have successfully worked to more than double NIH funding, which was \$12.7 billion at that time. The fiscal year 2010 LHHS Appropriations bill provided \$30.2 billion for NIH funding, an almost \$1 billion increase from fiscal year 2009. I also secured an additional \$10 billion in funding through an amendment to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

I have fought and will continue to fight for increased funding for the NIH because medical research saves and improves lives. Medical research, along with significant community support through efforts such as THON, provides children with a real chance to be cured

so that they may continue to grow and prosper.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 489—HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. BENJAMIN L. HOOKS

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 489

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was born in Memphis, Tennessee on January 31, 1925;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks died April 15, 2010, at the age of 85 in Memphis, Tennessee, and is survived by his wife, Frances Hooks, his daughter, Patricia Gray, and 2 grandsons;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was the fifth of 7 children born to Robert B. and Bessie Hooks, and was the grandson of Julia Hooks, the second Black woman in the United States to graduate from college;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks attended LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis and, in 1944, graduated from Howard University;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks joined the United States Army during World War II and was promoted to staff sergeant;

Whereas in 1948, Benjamin Hooks received his law degree from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois and returned to Memphis, Tennessee to help breakdown segregation;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks set up his own law practice and was one of a few Blacks practicing law in Memphis from 1949-1965;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was appointed to a vacancy on the Shelby County criminal court, by Governor Frank G. Clement in 1965, making him the first Black criminal court judge in the history of Tennessee;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was a leader in the civil rights movement and joined the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Reverend Martin Luther King in 1956;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks became the first Black appointee to the Federal Communications Commission in 1972, when he was appointed by President Richard Nixon, and, in that capacity, worked towards minority employment and involvement in broadcasting;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was elected executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on November 6, 1976, and served in that role until 1992;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was an ordained minister and delivered sermons for 52 years at the Greater Middle Baptist Church and as pastor at Greater New Mountain Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks was honored in 1996 with the dedication of the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis, which he helped to create;

Whereas Benjamin Hooks and Francis Hooks renewed their wedding vows on March 24, 2001, after almost 50 years of marriage;

Whereas in November 2007, Benjamin Hooks was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States, by President George W. Bush; and

Whereas the passing of Benjamin Hooks is a great loss: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the outstanding contributions of Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks to the civil rights movement, the ministry, his family, and the community of Memphis, Tennessee; and